

HOUSE RESOLUTION 227

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the service and sacrifice of Bikkel, a canine veteran and police service dog.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to recognize those who have contributed greatly in service to this State and to these United States; and

WHEREAS, this recognition extends to those canines who have dedicated their lives to serving and protecting our soldiers, our citizens, and our borders; and

WHEREAS, all four branches of the United States Armed Forces, as well as other government agencies, including the Secret Service, Central Intelligence Agency, Transportation Security Authority, and civilian contractors working in conjunction with these agencies use military working dogs in service to the country; and

WHEREAS, in addition to their service to the military, dogs have been integral to border protection, police work, and search and rescue operations; and

WHEREAS, dogs have abilities that the most advanced technology cannot match, rendering them invaluable; and

WHEREAS, their service is carried out with incredible efficiency and dedication and is an important contribution to the security and public safety of our State and our Nation; and

WHEREAS, dogs have not only helped win battles and save lives, but have also had an enormous beneficial effect upon the mental well-being of those humans with whom they have served; and

WHEREAS, specially trained dogs are currently deployed in theater as combat stress-relief canines and used in therapeutic rehabilitation settings and service to wounded service members and veterans; and

WHEREAS, remembrance of all the dogs from all our wars is in keeping with the “K-9 Veterans Day” movement, founded by the late Joseph J. White; and

WHEREAS, Police Service Dog Bikkel has served honorably with civilian contractors in Bagdad, Iraq, and at Arnold Air Force Base, Tullahoma, Tennessee, for approximately four years and has brought credit to the Explosive Detection Unit through exemplary performance in the Canine Police Olympics; and

WHEREAS, with their heightened senses and unwavering dedication to service, dogs have performed with bravery and honor for many years, and it is fitting that this body recognize this country’s many canine veterans; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby formally recognize the many contributions made by Canine Veterans throughout the history of these United States and honor Police Service Dog Bikkel for his steadfast and commendable service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.